

which improved the quality of life for residents and strengthened his community.

His advocacy for underserved populations led him to a career in politics, and he was nominated chairman for the People's National Party in Jamaica. During his time as chairman, he worked with government leaders to improve conditions for children and families in Kingston. He was also enlisted as the youth leader for the Rennock Lodge Youth Organization.

He emigrated to the United States in January of 1981 and settled in the diverse Rogers Park neighborhood in Chicago, Illinois with his wife and five children. His first job was with St. Francis Hospital in Evanston, followed by a position with a tuckpointing company, and finally, he worked for the Village of Glencoe for 16 years where he retired in 2006.

After retirement, he continued to serve his community as a volunteer for numerous non-profit organizations. He was actively involved with the Democratic Party of Evanston and worked as a crossing guard for the City of Evanston. Each morning, he woke up looking forward to seeing the children and brightening up their days with words of encouragement or a witty quip that made them smile.

His faith was the driving force in his life, and he was an elder at First Church of God Christian Life Center in Evanston, and then became an Elder at Deliverance Temple Church in Skokie.

Fitzgerald is survived by his devoted wife of 49 years, Sonia Davis; daughters, Rose Scott and Karen Davis; sons, Byron Davis (Marie), Lloyd Davis (Lorraine), Dave Davis (Tara); grandchildren, Klarissa Davis, Lloyd Davis Jr., Kayla Davis, Leah Davis, Theo Davis, and Steven Davis; and great-grandchildren, Ivy and Oakley. Fitzgerald also leaves behind brothers Philip Davis and Chris Davis; sisters Deloris Scott, Beverly Burnett, Angela Davis, and a host of other loving relatives and friends who will rejoice in his memory.

REMEMBERING GENERAL RAYMOND T. ODIERNO, NJ-11 NATIVE AND BRAVE MILITARY LEADER FOR OVER FOUR DECADES

HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize General Raymond Thomas Odierno, former Chief of Staff for the Army and a native of Rockaway in New Jersey's 11th Congressional District. General Odierno began his service to our country as a young man attending the United States Military Academy at West Point and went on to serve our nation for the majority of his life.

He was commissioned as an officer in the Army in 1976, serving around the world to protect and defend our nation's Constitution and values. Most notably, General Odierno served three tours in Iraq, including commanding the 4th Infantry Division on his first tour in 2003, which played a major role in the capture of Saddam Hussein.

In 2011, General Odierno was selected to be the Army's Chief of Staff, the highest ranking general in the Army. In this role, he guided the Army through the final withdrawal of troops

from Iraq, addressed issues facing our troops including rising rates of suicide, and handled crises such as the Ebola outbreak in 2014.

General Odierno's strength, strategic thinking, and commitment to service were unmatched and our country is safer because of him. He was a beloved community member of NJ-11. Whenever he returned to his hometown in Morris County, he gave back to the local community, including by meeting with the next generation of leaders at the local schools.

General Odierno passed away on October 8th after a valiant battle with cancer. He will be missed by his family, friends, the NJ-11 community, and fellow servicemembers and veterans.

IN HONOR OF WALTER COX

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a great American, Walter Clay Cox, Jr. Mr. Cox was born on November 9, 1922 and lives in Lexington, Kentucky. Mr. Cox celebrates his 99th birthday this year.

Mr. Cox grew up in Lancaster, Kentucky. After graduating from high school in 1940, he attended the University of Kentucky. He was headed to law school when his ROTC unit was called up for basic training in 1943. He was later assigned to the U.S. Army's 3rd platoon, 70th Infantry Division. The troops were shipped out of Boston to Marseille, France. The platoon of 40 men left for the front lines on December 10, 1944, traveling in a boxcar. They arrived at the front in time for a "real" Christmas. Conditions were brutal in the freezing winter as the unit fought the German army in the Battle of the Bulge. Mr. Cox attained the rank of Captain. He remembers well the celebration when the Germans surrendered in 1945. Mr. Cox's service continued during the occupation of Germany until May of 1946. He was recalled to active duty and served in the Judge Advocate General Corps in Korea from January 1951 to September 1952.

In 1946, Mr. Cox returned to the University of Kentucky and completed his Juris Doctorate. He served as the Police Judge in Lancaster. He was the originating and managing partner of a law practice in Lexington. For more than 50 years, he has been a member of the Commercial Law League of America, the Kentucky Bar Association Senior Counselor, Federal Bar authorized to practice before the Supreme Court and authorized to practice before the US Department of Veterans Affairs. He opened his own law practice in 2004 and continues to actively practice law. Mr. Cox authored a book, "I Love My Angel", about his service in the military.

Walter Cox is a true patriot, a great American, and an inspiration to us all. I am forever grateful to him and other members of the Greatest Generation or sacrificing and fighting to preserve the freedoms that we hold dear. It is my honor to recognize him on his 99th birthday before the United States Congress.

SONS OF ITALY: ITALIAN FESTIVAL WILDWOOD

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, October is Italian Heritage month, a time to celebrate the wonderful culture and contributions of the Italian community. I had the honor and pleasure of attending the long-standing Italian Festival tradition in Wildwood, New Jersey. Wildwood's Italian Festival is a time-honored tradition where music, food, fun and culture of the Italian heritage collide for an experience unlike any other. I thank them again for inviting me to the festival, and I look forward to being there next year. God bless Sons of Italy, and God bless America.

ARIZONA MARINE PREVENTS ROBBERY

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Marine veteran James Kilcer, whose exceptional heroism and extraordinary courage prevented an armed robbery at a Yuma, Arizona convenience store.

On October 20, three men, one of whom was armed, entered the convenience store where Mr. Kilcer was shopping. Acting without hesitation, Mr. Kilcer disarmed the gunman and detained him until police arrived.

Because of his heroism and swift action, no one was hurt and the robbers were all arrested. James Kilcer is well-deserving of the Citizen's Valor Award recently presented to him by the Yuma Sheriff Department. Madam Speaker, I commend Mr. James Kilcer for putting his own life on the line while aiding his fellow citizens.

HONORING MANUELA RENDON

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Mr. VELA. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Manuela Rendon, a dedicated leader in South Texas who has given 50 years of service to Head Start programs and has made a lasting impact on thousands of children and families in our community.

Ms. Rendon's advocacy journey began in 1971 during her time as a teacher at Bonita Park Head Start program in Harlingen, Texas. During her first year as an educator, she developed a passion for Head Start and committed herself to helping underserved families. Ms. Rendon was quickly promoted to center manager, where her vision was to enhance early childhood development, empower parents and families, and advocate for the less fortunate.

After six years at Bonita Park Head Start, Ms. Rendon was invited to lead the Head